

PATENT

Atty Docket No. 59905

Express Mail Label No. EV 334814210 US

What is claimed is:

1. A latching device comprising:

a housing including at least one detent;

5 a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing;

a spring member in communication with said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and including a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

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2. The latching device of claim 1, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents and said detents include protrusions extending from said housing.

3. The latching device of claim 1, additionally comprising:

15 a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

4. The latching device of claim 3, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially
20 retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

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5. The latching device of claim 1, wherein said spring member includes a an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

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6. The latching device of claim 1, wherein said housing includes oppositely disposed grooves extending therethrough and said bolt includes lateral portions with edges for receipt in said respective grooves.

10 7. The latching device of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a tab, said tab in communication with said bolt; and

said housing including a slot for receiving at least a portion of said tab.

8. The latching device of claim 1, wherein said housing envelopes said bolt.

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9. The latching device of claim 8, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.

10. A latching device comprising:

20 a housing including at least one detent;

a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing;

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a spring member in communication with said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt by engaging said at least one detent; and

said housing at least partially enveloping said bolt.

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11. The latching device of claim 10, wherein said spring member includes a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position

12. The latching device of claim 11, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents
10 and said detents include protrusions extending from said housing.

13. The latching device of claim 10, additionally comprising:

a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing
15 and limiting travel of said bolt.

14. The latching device of claim 13, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

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15. The latching device of claim 10, wherein said spring member includes a an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said

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spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

16. The latching device of claim 10, wherein said housing includes oppositely disposed grooves
5 extending therethrough and said bolt includes lateral portions with edges for receipt in said respective grooves.

17. The latching device of claim 10, additionally comprising:

a tab, said tab in communication with said bolt; and

10 said housing including a slot for receiving at least a portion of said tab.

18. The latching device of claim 10, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.